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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ELIZABETH WARREN, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord God Almighty, we sing praises to You, for You bless all those who depend on You for strength. You are the shield that protects our Nation. You treat us with kindness and honor.

Lord, pour Your spirit upon our Senators so that they will feel Your transforming presence. May they use the abilities You have given them to make the world a better place. Help them to take seriously their opportunity to be instruments of Your grace.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable ELIZABETH WARREN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 14, 2013.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ELIZABETH WARREN, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Ms. WARREN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

BASEBALL FANS

Mr. REID. Madam President, the Republican leader and I follow very closely the Washington Nationals, and we talk often about how they fare on any given day. We just spent a minute commiserating about a young man from Las Vegas, Bryce Harper. We talk about him often because he is a phenomenon in baseball. Yesterday, while playing in Los Angeles—a late game—he got two walks, a hit, and, as he does all the time—well, not like this—he was chasing a ball full speed and he ran into the wall full speed. I told the Republican leader I am going to talk to his family later. It is too early in the West, but I told him I will talk to his mom or dad and find out how he is doing. But he crashed into that wall, and he has 11 stitches in his chin, he was knocked out, and he hurt one of his shoulders. So we will see how he is.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Will my friend the majority leader yield?

Mr. REID. I would be glad to yield.

Mr. MCCONNELL. As my friend indicated, we were talking about this before the session opened. This kid is one the most incredible competitors I have ever seen.

The game was on the west coast, and I don't know whether my friend stayed up that late, but I didn't stay up late enough to see the crash into the wall. So when my friend speaks to his mother, remind her that this is one thing on which leaders on both sides fully agree: We are hoping Harper has a speedy recovery and is back in the lineup.

Mr. REID. And the manager said, when asked afterwards about him, I don't want him to change anything because he is such a competitor.

But I think he will maybe have to watch those walls in the future.

Mrs. BOXER. Plus, both Senators are wearing the same suit today. It is a good day for it.

Mr. REID. Yes, we are wearing the same suit. We try to match wardrobes.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, following leader remarks the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 11 a.m. this morning. The majority will control the first half, the Republicans the final half.

Following morning business the Senate will resume consideration of S. 601, the Water Resources Development Act.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

I ask unanimous consent that the full time, the full 1 hour, be given to the Democrats, their half hour, and the Republicans, their half-hour, and if the vote has to come a little later, we just need to get that out of the way before our caucuses. And we could probably terminate that at noon. That will be fine. So I ask unanimous consent that the Democrats have their full half hour and the Republicans their full half hour.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Following morning business, as I indicated, the Senate will resume consideration of the Water Resources Development Act.

Madam President, I was in a meeting a few minutes ago. This is an important bill, and it shows that one of the most liberal Members of the Senate and one of the most conservative Members of the Senate—BOXER and VITTER—can work extremely well together, as they have on this bill. I hope we can have a finite list of amendments and not have to invoke cloture because we would invoke cloture and I would rather not do that. The filing deadline for all second-degree amendments to the bill is 11:15 a.m. today. The managers continue to work to

● This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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